

1913.

THE

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.),

FOR THE

Rural District of St. Faiths,

Together with the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D., Cantab.),

FOR THE

Rural District of St. Faiths, Norfolk,

FOR THE YEAR 1913.

BIRTHS.

There were 230 Births registered during the year, which is equivalent to a Birth-rate of 21·0 as compared with 19·9 in the year 1912.

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the District was 193, of which 39 occurred amongst the inmates of Hellesdon Asylum. There were, in addition, 14 Deaths of "Residents" which were not registered in the District, and the nett mortality was 15·1 per 1,000 as compared with 12·4 in the previous year. There were two Deaths from Measles, but none from any of the other Zymotic Diseases. The Infant Mortality has risen during the year from 64 to 90 per 1,000 Births registered, but there would not appear to be any one cause accountable for this. Only one Death in Infants was ascribed to either Diarrhoea or Enteritis.

DEATH-RATE FROM ZYMOtic DISEASES PER 1,000 INHABITANTS.

Whole District (excluding City Asylum)	0·1
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DEATH-RATE FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

PER 1,000 INHABITANTS.

Whole District (excluding City Asylum) ...	1913. 0·5	1912. 1·1
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DEATH-RATE FROM CANCER PER 1,000 INHABITANTS.

Whole District (excluding City Asylum) ...	1913. 1·1	1912. 1·4
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ZYMATIC DISEASES.

There were 40 cases of Infectious Diseases notified to me during the year under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, as compared with 70 in the previous year. There were no Deaths among this number. There were 11 cases of Diphtheria, which all occurred in the Parishes of Sprowston and St. Faiths. There were 15 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. In this connection I cannot help expressing regret that the Council could not accede to my request to supply sputum-flasks to those suffering from Consumption who were unable to pay for the same, as there is no doubt that the bacillus-laden expectoration is a fruitful source of infection of this disease, especially in the cottage homes of the poor.

I have again to report that no accommodation exists for isolating cases of Infectious Diseases that occur in the District, and I would once again urge upon the Council the importance of providing something in the shape of an Isolation Hospital.

VACCINATIONS.

FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1912.

BIRTHS, 216.

Vaccinated ...	...	...	...	123
Conscientious Objectors		...	...	69
Died Unvaccinated ...	...	...	...	11
Postponed ...	...	...	...	4
Removed to other Districts		...	...	9
				—
				216
				—

FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 30TH JUNE, 1913.

BIRTHS, 121.

Vaccinated ...	...	...	...	68
Conscientious Objectors		...	...	42
Died Unvaccinated ...	...	...	...	7
Postponed ...	...	...	...	4
Removed to other Districts		...	...	—
				—
				121
				—

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

Acting upon my Report of last year on the over-crowding and insufficiency of houses for the working classes in the Parish of Horsford, the Local Government Board held a Special Enquiry on the spot on October 7th last. The Board have since declared it as their opinion that at least eight new houses, each with three bedrooms, should be built in this Parish, and I understand that an 8-acre site for these has been secured by the Council, land which has hitherto been cultivated as allotments. If these houses were planned on the ground-floor principle, with a wide verandah on the south and west aspects, so that, in case of illness, the whole bed could be brought out into the open air, I am convinced that they would be an enormous advance, as regards the health of the occupants, upon any existing houses in the District. Wood might enter largely into their construction for purposes of economy in initial outlay and increased warmth in the winter ; and, there being no staircases, the risk of life from fire would be reduced to a minimum.

Repairs and improvements have been effected to some of the houses in Horsford that I had to report adversely upon last year. The property on the Holt Road, lately owned by Mrs. Wade, has now passed into the hands of Trustees of a Friendly Society, who have converted one of the houses into two wash-houses, and have let them in conjunction with two other dwellings that were formerly without out-houses. Also a large quantity of soil has been removed from the back of the dwellings and drains laid to carry off storm-water. A late occupier (F. Lawes) of one of these houses, which was too small for his family, has since moved to a 3-bedroomed cottage, formerly occupied by Mrs. Wade. Also the four cottages on the Holt Road, lately owned by Mr. Elliott, have now passed into other hands, and the new owner (Mr. I. Cannell) has made extensive structural alterations to the houses, and has put them into good habitable repair. One of the bad cases of over-crowding, reported last year, existed at one of these cottages.

A case of over-crowding in Dog Lane (G. Fulcher, occupier), has been remedied by the family moving to a larger house. In Catton I condemned a house as uninhabitable during the year, and the owner (W. Bilby), upon whom a Closing Order was served, has since raised the walls, added new windows, a new roof, and repaired the floors, so that the house is again habitable.

Six other uninhabitable cottages in Catton have, through the agency of the Council, been put into habitable repair by the owner, and are all occupied. In Beeston St. Andrew three cottages were found to be in a bad state of repair, and reported upon to the Council. A copy of the Report was sent to the Agent with a request to remedy the defects. The Agent was subsequently met on the spot and the defects pointed out to him. I regret to say that the remedial work has not been carried out in a satisfactory manner, and I cannot yet pass all these cottages as habitable dwellings. Three other cottages in this Parish require repairing, but so far we have been unable to get these repairs effectively carried out. In Attlebridge two good cottages, each with three bedrooms, have been built during the year, and two others have been restored to a state of habitable repair.

In Swanington Closing Orders were served during the year on the owner (Mr. Crane) of three cottages owing to their being so damp as to be unfit for habitation. In the case of one of these the floor has been taken up, the soil drained, and the floor relaid on concrete. This house is now occupied and the nuisance abated. The work in connection with the other two houses is not yet completed.

In Horstead two of the cottages demolished by the flood of 1912 have been rebuilt, and three others damaged by the same cause have been restored. Three others that were partly demolished by the flood have not yet been repaired, and remain unoccupied. During the year one new cottage has been built in this Parish.

Tabular Summary of Houses Inspected under Section 17 of Act of 1909.

No. In- spected.	No. unfit for human habitation.	No. of representations to L. A. for Closing Orders.	No. of Closing Orders made.	No. of Houses where defects were remedied.		General Character of defects found to exist.	Other information and particulars.
				Without Closing Order.	After Closing Order.		
320	5	Made by the Council's own Officers. 4	4	23	3	Damp floors.	

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

To Mr. A. W. Preston, F.R., Met. Soc., of Brundall, I am indebted for the following meteorological records and observations made by him during the year 1913 :—

TEMPERATURE.

Each of the six months, January to June inclusive, gave a mean temperature above the normal, the excess in March being as much as 3·5 deg. July was as much as 4 deg. below, and August 1·8 deg. below the average. September to December inclusive were all abnormally warm, the excess in November being as much as 3·2 deg. The warmest period of the year was the last week of May, when the thermometer in the shade exceeded 80 deg. on four days, an almost unprecedented continuation of warmth for so early in the year. Temperature only exceeded 80 deg. on three days after May, viz., on June 16th and 17th and on August 30th. It did not exceed 74 deg. on any day in July. There were no exceptionally low night readings at any time during the year. Mean temperature of the year varied but little from that of the previous year, when there were both warmer days and colder nights.

RAINFALL.

There was no great excess of rain in any month, the wettest months having been October with 3·83 ins., September 3·05 ins., and January 2·92 ins. In three months (February, June, and December) the total fall failed to reach an inch. The number of days with rain was 184, as against 225 the previous year, and as against the thirty year average of 199 days. There has been no year with so few rain-days since 1904. The year's rainfall was 1·33 ins. deficient.

SUNSHINE.

The returns, once again kindly furnished by Mr. J. H. Willis, show some remarkable variations. The only month with a considerable excess was November, which gave 86·8 hours, or 23·6 hours above the average. March gave a deficiency of 18 hours,

April 22·9 hours, and May 11·3 hours, or a combined deficiency of 52·2 hours for the three spring months. July gave 102·5 hours below the normal, or only about half the usual amount, and the sunlessness of the month is much marked when it is compared with the brilliant July of 1911, the totals being as follow :—July, 1911, 310·1 hours ; July, 1913 ; 107·9 hours. The remaining months did not vary much from their respective averages, although December made a poor record.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

TEMPERATURE.

RAINFALL.

Greatest
fall
in one
day.
ins.

Month.		Max. Deg.	Min. Deg.	Mean. Deg.	Total. ins.	Days with rain.
January	...	51·8	23·7	39·3	2·92	20
February	...	54·8	26·5	40·9	0·84	12
March	...	55·8	28·3	44·0	2·32	21
April	...	67·5	29·0	46·7	2·36	18
May	...	81·2	37·0	55·1	1·16	10
June	...	83·1	42·0	58·5	0·72	12
July	...	74·0	42·7	57·6	2·63	15
August	...	81·1	41·5	59·2	1·53	11
September	...	73·0	39·5	58·5	3·05	14
October	...	65·1	31·7	51·9	3·83	15
November	...	58·0	27·0	46·6	2·27	21
December	...	53·8	24·8	39·9	0·79	15
Year	...	83·1	23·7	49·8	24·42	184
						1·19

COMPARATIVE TABLE—1901–1913.

TEMPERATURE.

RAINFALL.

Greatest
fall
in one
day.
ins.

Year.		Max. Deg.	Min. Deg.	Mean. Deg.	Total. ins.	Days with rain.
1901	...	83·5	9·2	48·8	21·06	175
1902	...	83·4	14·0	48·4	22·30	192
1903	...	86·0	24·8	49·5	29·44	208
1904	...	87·6	21·0	49·3	21·50	180
1905	...	82·6	21·4	49·0	22·96	205
1906	...	93·0	15·8	49·7	28·54	202
1907	...	80·0	14·8	48·4	26·25	231
1908	...	81·0	17·0	49·0	25·16	221
1909	...	83·2	20·4	48·0	27·82	233
1910	...	80·0	20·8	49·1	31·84	232
1911	...	93·5	20·2	50·5	26·67	197
1912	...	86·5	18·0	49·6	35·03	225
1913	...	83·1	23·7	49·8	24·42	184
						1·19

There has been no epidemic of any of the notifiable infectious diseases during the past year, and the number that I have had to deal with was little more than half that of last year. In the cases of a few persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis I have managed to induce them so to adapt their cottages as to allow of their living in the open air as much as possible, but the Council possess nothing in the way of shelters that can be loaned to such people. A revolving shelter has, however, been supplied by the Tuberculosis Committee of the Norfolk Insurance Committee to a man suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Haynford.

The work done by the Inspector of Nuisances during the year is set out on page 10.

The Milk Supply of the District comes from several small dairies within the District, and from farmers who keep one or two cows. One suspected case of Mammary Tuberclie in a cow at a small farm in Felthorpe (Hawes, occupier), was discovered by the owner and reported to the Veterinary Surgeon, under whose advice the cow was isolated and not used for milking purposes until it had recovered. No prosecutions, so far as I know, have been made during the year for selling unwholesome food in the District.

The Water Supply in parts of Catton and Sprowston is derived from the Norwich Water Company, and is a constant supply. In most of the Parishes in the District the supply is derived from surface wells. I have not heard of any shortage of supply during the past year. Three analyses were made at the instigation of the Council, which led to condemning the supply from one well, and a supply from a driven tube now takes its place.

No polluted streams entering the river are known to exist in the District.

In general, the dispersal of sewerage is effected by drainage into dead wells, which are periodically emptied and the contents carted on to the land. In the Parish of Lenwade only does a

system of scavenging exist. This was started about three years ago, and there has since been a great improvement in the general condition of the village, and in the health of its inhabitants.

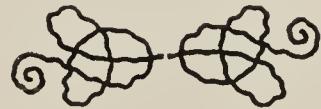
Except in private houses there are but few water-closets in the District. The bin and pan system are about equally distributed to the rest of the houses. Bins and pans are usually emptied by the occupiers ; where a cesspool exists the onus of emptying this at intervals usually rests upon the owner of the property.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my thanks to the medical men practising in the District for the help I have received from them during the year, and also to Mr. Fox, the Inspector of Nuisances.

SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.

37, ST. GILES STREET, NORWICH.

February 28th, 1914.



Report of Nuisances dealt with during Year 1913.

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	39
Nuisances detected without complaint			...	...	250
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	272
Notices served	...	...	...	...	72
Cottages inspected	...	...	...	...	320
Slaughter-houses inspected	...	...	...	...	12
Dairies and milk shops inspected	...	...	...	...	16
Cowsheds inspected	...	...	...	...	40
Workshops inspected	...	...	...	...	37
Filthy houses cleaned	...	...	...	...	10
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	24
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	12
Houses put in habitable repair	...	...	...	...	36
Houses erected or rebuilt for which Water Certificates sought					7
Certificates granted	...	...	...	...	3
Wells sunk or improved water supply			...	...	5
Wells cleaned out or repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Wells closed	...	...	...	...	3
Houses connected with water main	...	...	...	...	55

Earth pail or improved privies constructed or altered ...					18
Animals improperly kept removed ...	...	...	...	...	7
Samples of water taken for analysis ...	...	...	...	...	3
Canal boats inspected ...	...	...	...	...	4
Dead wells, cesspools, and privies emptied ...	...	...	...	...	227
Heaps of manure removed ...	...	...	...	...	30
Drains cleaned out ...	...	...	...	...	20
New drains laid ...	...	...	...	...	7
New privies built ...	...	...	...	...	5
Slaughter-houses cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	3
Cowshed floors repaired and drains laid ...	...	...	...	...	3
Dangerous chimneys repaired ...	...	...	...	...	6
Knackers' yards inspected ...	...	...	...	...	2
Privies repaired ...	...	...	...	...	27
					—
					1578
					—

THOMAS FOX,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and Previous Years.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	Total Population at all ages	... ... ... ... ...	10,807 2,497 4·7
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...
Average number of persons per house	...	...	...
Workhouse is within the District.	The Norwich City Asylum is also within the without the District.		

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1913.

13

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.					TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.								
	AT ALL AGES.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65 and upwards.	Catton	Taverham.	Drayton.	Witheggbham.	Saltbouse.	St. Faith's.	Holyford.	Haynford.	St. Faith's.	Witheggbham.	Leenwade.	Hondingham.
Diphtheria (including Mem-branous croup)	11	...	1	5	4	1	...	...	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	9	...	2	5	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	5	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	15	...	...	...	2	1	...	9	3	3	1	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	40	1	3	13	7	12	4	3	8	4	3	2	7	...	...	...	...	...

There is no Isolation Hospital in the District.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1913.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institu- tions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65 years. upwards.	
Measles	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculous)	6	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	7
Tuberculous Meningitis	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Meningitis	2	1	...	1	...	2	5	6	...
Organic Heart Disease	20	...	...	...	1	...	7	11	4
Bronchitis	6	4	...	...	...	1	...	2	...
Pneumonia (all other forms)	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Congenital Debility and Malforma- tion, including Premature Birth...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide...	4	5	...	2	...	...	1	1	...
Suicides	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	23	6	...	...	1	...	4	3	1
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	42	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12	72
	143	22	1	6	4	4	12	50	50

All Causes—Certified 187; Uncertified 6.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1913.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Year		Total Deaths	
		1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis
Convulsions	1	1
Enteritis	1	1
Premature Birth	5
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	4	5
Injury at Birth	2	5
Bronchitis	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	4
Other Causes	1	1
				1	2
				6	3
				1	22

Ninett Births in the year—legitimate 230, illegitimate 20.

Nett Deaths in the year—legitimate 21, illegitimate 1.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories	Nil.
Workshops	Nil.
Workplaces	Nil.
Total	—
	48	8	

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>			
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors	...	...	...
Other nuisances	...	...	...
Sanitary accommodation, unsuitable or defective	...	...	...
	5	4	...

	2	2	...

			Nil.
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...
	7	6	...
			...

Registered Workshops.

	Number.
Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	
Factory—Horsehair-Weaving, Closed	...
Workshops	...
Laundries	...
Bake-Offices	...
Total number of workshops on Register	...
	46

